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PROGRAM *PART II*
CBS Reports Inquiry *on*
ASSASSINATIONS STATION WTOP TV
CBS Network

DATE November 26, 1975 10:00 PM CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT Interview Segments with Colby *By Dan Rather on*
Lee Harvey Oswald

DAN RATHER: ...Some critics of the Warren Report believe Oswald was trained as a spy while in the Marine Corps and was taught the [Russian] language in anticipation of being sent to Russia.

William Colby, the present Director of the CIA, says that is not true.

Director Colby, did the CIA recruit Lee Harvey Oswald when he was in the Marines and send him to Russia?

DIRECTOR WILLIAM COLBY: No. We had no contact with Mr. Oswald.

RATHER: No contact before he went to the Soviet Union?

DIRECTOR COLBY: No contact with him before he went to the Soviet Union, no contact with him after he returned from the Soviet Union, no contact with him while he was in the Soviet Union.

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RATHER: Did anyone with the CIA debrief Oswald when he returned to this country?

DIRECTOR COLBY: No, the CIA did not debrief him. I think there are some unclassified, or declassified, reports of FBI debriefings, but the CIA did not debrief him.

RATHER: I say to you, as I have before, that that's difficult for many people, and, in all candor, difficult for me to believe: that a young man in the Marines gets out of the

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2

Marines, goes to the Soviet Union, marries a Russian woman, moves back to this country, comes back into this society; and it is difficult to believe that the CIA did not, under some circumstances, debrief him.

DIRECTOR COLBY: Right. Well, I think -- I understand your doubt on this question. I think you have to look at the circumstances.

Mr. Oswald was what can be called a defector to the Soviet Union. We did have a report on Mr. Oswald, which the FBI gave to us, about it. We also received some material from the Embassy in Moscow about Mr. Oswald, when he tried to disclaim his citizenship. We had a little file, therefore, on Mr. Oswald, which consisted of the two reports from the FBI, the two reports from the Embassy in Moscow, and one report from the Department Navy -- the Marines, I think it was -- indicating some exchange between them. That's all we had until roughly October of 1963.

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RATHER: During his visit to Mexico in September 1963, you had Oswald under surveillance at both the Russian and Cuban Embassies?

DIRECTOR COLBY: No, no, no. We did not have him under surveillance. We became aware of a contact he made with each of those embassies.

RATHER: Did you make voice recordings of him?

DIRECTOR COLBY: I think there were, yes.

RATHER: Why was the Warren Commission given a photograph of another man at the Cuban Embassy, wrongly identified as Lee Harvey Oswald?

DIRECTOR COLBY: Well, it wasn't wrongly identified as Lee Harvey Oswald. We knew that he was in these embassies at a certain day, and we looked at the capability we had to photograph certain things in the city. And we looked at -- through the photographs, hoping that we could find, perhaps, a photograph of him as he came in or went out of one of these embassies. We did focus on one which we thought might be him, and this was flown up to Dalla, labeled "an unidentified white male." That was the identification of it. But it was flown up in case it could be helpful at that time. But there was not a photograph wrongly labeled.

It turned out not to be Mr. Oswald, clearly. And we, to this day, don't know who he is.